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DISCIPLINE: ENVIRONMENT

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TITLE: APPLICATION OF REMOTE SENSING IN THE STUDY OF VEGETATION AND SOILS IN IDAHO (MMC # 313-3)

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:

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SUMMARY: The objective is to determine the applicability of ERTS A and other remote sensing imagery in defining the characteristics and boundaries of vegetation-soil types in the sagebrush-grass and related zones of Southern Idaho.

Our principal problem at present is lack of equipment. We are investigating such items as light tables, projectors, color enhancement viewers, etc. Trips will be made soon to remote sensing centers in this region to check on equipment and methods for processing ERTS A and related imagery.

ERTS A imagery covering Southern Idaho for 3 flight periods has been received and indexed. Preliminary examination indicates much useable imagery, but newton rings are visible on some of the transparencies. U-2 imagery from 2 flights in Southern Idaho has just been received and preliminary viewing indicates that it should be highly useful for the areas covered.

During the next two months we plan to view these materials intensively and begin to delineate major vegetation and soil boundaries on a skeleton map of Southern Idaho.

Standing order forms - We are currently receiving 4 copies of all ERTS imagery in the 70 mm size; 2 copies would be adequate.

We would like to add the 9 x 9 transparencies in the 4 MSS wavebands to our standing order in the expectation that these will give greater detail.